

Oct 2017

From the Front

From the Rear

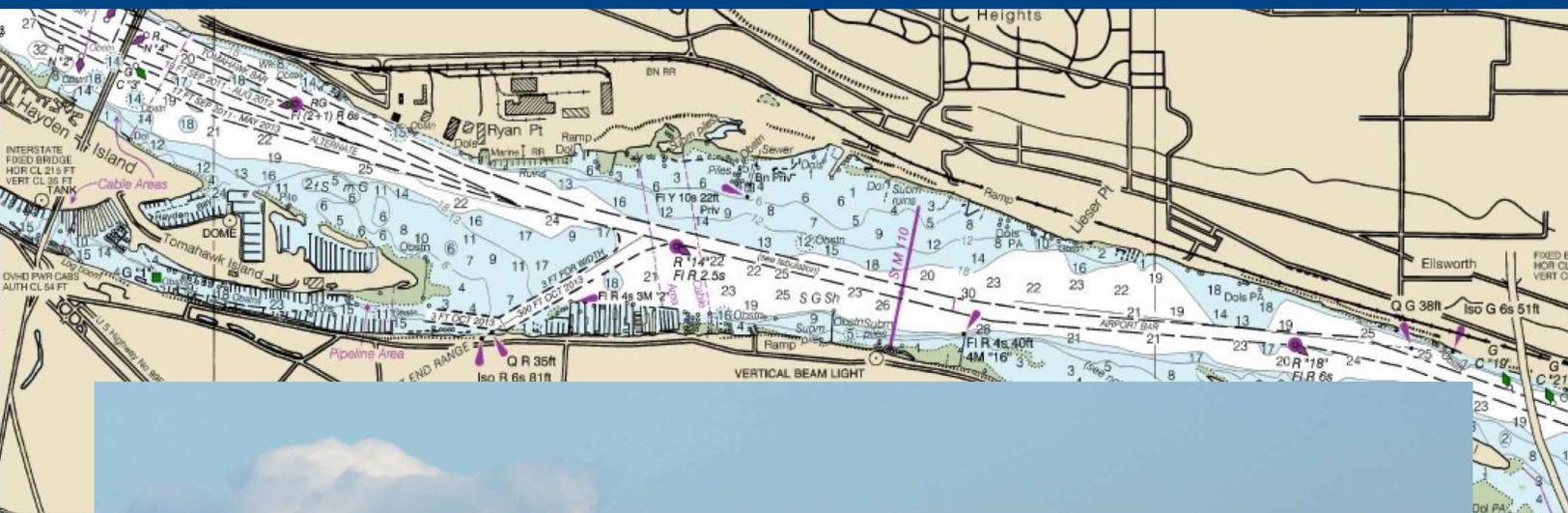
Proposed Changes to the
SYSCO Bylaws

Race Report

October 2017
SYSCO Board Minutes



Small Yacht Sailing Club of Oregon STARTING LINE



Cool Change sailing the PYC Fall Regatta with Mt. Hood peeking up through the clouds behind her. Photo courtesy of Maria Swearingen.

From the Front

Bruce Newton, Commodore

2017 General Membership Meeting

On November 6 at 7pm at Elmer's – Delta Park restaurant SYSCO will hold the General Membership Meeting. This once-a-year meeting is where we elect new officers to guide the ship in 2018 and where the members can vote on any changes to the club by-laws. There will be two proposed changes to the by-laws.

The first item is to change the membership dues and late fee. The annual dues for Regular Membership is proposed to change from \$100 to \$120 and the late fee for renewing membership after February 15 is proposed to change from \$5 to \$10. Your Board takes very seriously the Club's goal of providing racing and cruising at minimum expense. As you may recall, dues were static for many years. Then in 2016 we assumed responsibility for the third summer series. We tried a tiered dues system that year (Silver and Gold levels) but it created many headaches and was not workable. So this year we went back to a single dues level set at the midpoint between the tiers (\$100). But adding the third series has increased our expenses and this year we had a significant deficit in our operational budget. Rather than keep making adjustments every year the Board is proposing a dues increase to \$120 which should be sufficient for many years. Note that this is still substantially less than what most members used to pay for membership and the separate registration fee for the third series.



PYC Fall Regatta low wind start. Photo courtesy of Maria Swearingen.

The second item is a collection of minor housekeeping updates. The by-laws contain a number of terms and provisions that are out of date or no longer reflect how the club operates. The proposed housekeeping updates are detailed in the explanation of the by-law changes later in this newsletter.

If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself) to serve as a Board Officer, please let me know as soon as possible. The nominees at this writing are as follows:

Commodore: Michael Morrissey

Vice Commodore/Race Captain: Jeff Eastes

Treasurer: Scott Stevenson

Secretary: open

If you would like to vote by proxy in lieu of attending the meeting, send an email message to me at commodore@syscosailing.org. Please vote on (1) each of the officer positions, (2) the proposed dues change, and (3) the proposed housekeeping updates. Be sure to include your name so we can verify that you are a member in good standing.

Awards Party

The annual Awards Party is November 4 at Portland Yacht Club. Space may be limited so be sure to purchase your tickets soon at sailpdx.org. SYSCO used to have its own awards banquet but, after a vote of the membership last year, we combined our party with the OCSA party to have one big bash. Trophies will be awarded for SYSCO events as well as for events held by other clubs. As is traditional, each Fleet will be donating an item or basket of items for the raffle drawings. The theme for the party is tropical and everyone is encouraged to dress tropical.



*Ranger 20 Papagayo aspiring to outsail a catamaran during the PYC Fall Regatta. Our Columbia River Ranger 20s are feisty!
Photo courtesy of Maria Swearingen.*

From the Rear

Nat Powning, Rear Commodore

Perhaps in an overabundance of candor, I have to admit that writing newsletter articles and blog posts is possibly one of my least favorite things to do. But you know what? Writing these blurbs and getting them all edited together might be two of the most important jobs in a club like SYSCO (Thank you Jackie!). Tracking the history of events, general thoughts and contributions of the membership is something you can't go back and catch up on years later. As I recently listened to someone explaining how another club mostly lacks this sort of record it dawned on me how invaluable it is. Even the shortest write-ups on social, racing and cruising events sent in by anyone that experienced it is a huge help towards the effort of keeping track of what the club's about. It helps remind those that follow why it exists.

This season I did get out for a few races, both on committee and competing boats. I made it to most of our meetings and even replied to an email or three. But it would be fair to say that I've been relatively overwhelmed during my tenure as a flag officer at SYSCO. Particularly in the past year with the arrival of our second child, a full time job, a couple side jobs and nearly every rare spare minute going into getting our boat refitted for serious cruising. However, in the absence of someone else standing up to take the job, I'd honestly still step in as Race Captain and all that follows after given the opportunity to change that decision today.

Seriously, clubs like SYSCO can't exist without the volunteers that run them. It's not just flagged officers, we all depend on the Fleet Captains and a number of critical chair positions as well. Please consider donating an hour of your time to learn more at the annual membership meeting taking place in the Delta Park Elmer's on November 6th. Another really helpful meeting for you to attend is Fleet Night in February.

I'll see you there.



Above: New baby Morgan is distracted from her porthole.

Below: Dolphins play in our bow wave on a recent delivery job.

Photos courtesy of Nat Powning.



Proposed Changes to the SYSCO Bylaws

Tod Bassham

The SYSCO Board of Directors is proposing Bylaws revisions, some of them housekeeping, some of them substantive. Below are the substantive changes (deleted language struck-through, with added language underlined), with an explanation for the change. To read the proposed revisions in their entirety, go to SYSCO's website at syscosailing.org.

Substantive Change #1:

Article 3, Section 5 (Membership). "The Members will be divided into fleets based on the type of boats they possess. A fleet is a group of three or more Members who possess small yachts with characteristics controlled by the same one-design fleet regulations, or a group of three or more Members who possess yachts with characteristics not controlled by the same one-design fleet regulations, but who wish to race against one another with or without fleet handicaps, subject to ~~notwithstanding~~ assignment by the Racing Committee~~Race Captain~~. "

Rationale: (1) The "with or without" language reflects the fact that SYSCO now offers handicapped racing in almost all of its events. (2) The "subject to assignment by the Racing Committee" language is intended to give the RC flexibility in assigning boats to fleets. The original language suggested that a group of any three boats could race as a fleet, notwithstanding how the RC would assign boats.

Substantive Change #2

Article Four, Section 1 (Fees).

"Section 1. Upon election to membership and prior to February 15 each year thereafter, each renewing Member shall submit with a completed renewal form: Annual dues are as follows:

Membership is \$120.00 (One-Hundred Twenty Dollars); and,

Associate Membership is \$25.00 (Twenty-five Dollars).

A late fee of \$10.00 (Ten Dollars) shall be added to the renewal membership fee of each Member and Associate Member if their renewal form and annual dues are not received by the Club's Post Office Box by February 15. This late fee will apply to each renewal form received February 16 through August 31, from any Member or Associate Member from the preceding year, at the Club's Post Office Box. Membership applications or renewals received between September 1 and December 31 of each year will be applied to membership in the following year, subject to dues increase, if any, the following year."

Rationale: See the From the Front article of this newsletter for an explanation of the proposed increase in membership fees. The Bylaw Revision Committee would add only that the expenses of operating Pancho for three full series has been more than expected, and this year the Board has been unable to put anything aside into the Pancho reserve fund (much depleted with the purchase of the new Honda engine last year). The Pancho reserve fund is intended to prepare the club for that inevitable day that Pancho requires major surgery or, god forbid, replacement. The proposed \$20 increase in the membership fee would hopefully generate about \$2,500 per year in additional revenue, which would allow the Board to rebuild the Pancho reserve fund. The “subject to dues increase, if any, the following year” language is intended to ensure that all members pay the same membership fee.



PYC Fall Regatta. Photo by Maria Swearingen.

Substantive Change #3:

Section 4. Those Members

present at an annual or a special meeting shall constitute a quorum. Each Member shall have one vote in deciding issues presented to all Members at general meetings. A Member may vote by proxy. A proxy must be in writing and signed by the Member so voting, and must be presented to the Commodore by the Member exercising the proxy by e-mail or other means.

Rationale: This codifies the current practice of allowing members to vote on a proposal or officer at the general meeting by sending an e-mail to the Commodore.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

CYC Sailing on Sunday Series

Sundays, Oct 15 – Mar 4

OCSA Awards Banquet

Nov 4

Racing Report

Michael Morrissey, Vice Commodore/Race Captain

The racing is over, the scoring tabulated, and the award recipients have been determined. It's been a great SYSCO sailing season with sailors negotiating 3 knot currents and fluky winds in early spring, followed by a gear buster at the end of May to make us all forget about the zephyrs of April. The Dual Bridge Duel race tried everyone's patience in light air with less than half the fleets finishing while the St Helens Race and Cruise had good winds throughout and saw most boats finishing in less than three hours. The Summer Evening and Twilight Series had more of the typical summer westerlies and close racing around the fleets with dockside tales of near misses, broaches, and if only that chute had not gotten tangled around the forestay. Again, many thanks to all the sailors and helpers who worked on Race Committee, setting marks, working flags, and scoring finishes. SYSCO prides itself as an all-volunteer organization and we certainly get our money's worth. During the 2017 season, SYSCO sponsored 38 days of racing for 101 boats divided into 16 fleets. This works out to be about 182 starts with almost as many finishes. As I mentioned, lots of racing, organizing, and number crunching -- all for the love of sailing. Congratulations to fellow racers no matter what place you finished and thanks to all for your participation.

A note on scoring. As described in the 2017 OCSA Racebook (pg. 70, Rule No. 19 Awards), the number of boats starting at least one race will determine the number of awards per fleet. Awards will be presented as follows: 3 boats – 1 award; 5 boats – 2 awards; 8 boats – 3 awards; 11 boats – 4 awards. Classes with fewer than 3 boats starting will not receive awards. Race results are posted at www.sailpdx.org.

The trophy awards will be presented at the annual OCSA Topical Party held this year at the Portland Yacht Club on Nov, 4th. Award winners are listed below and we hope to see you there.

2017 SYSCO Trophy Winners	
Spring Series - First Place	
J-24 Fleet: Deadbeat	Jeff McDonald
Cal 20 Fleet: Check Ride	Brian Breithbarth
Catalina 22 Fleet: Sooz Moose	Don Woodhouse
Ranger 20 Fleet: Papagayo	Mike Barth
Crusing A Fleet: Nausicaa	Bill Wagner
Cruising B Fleet: River Weasel	John Osborne
Crusing C Fleet: Wildheart	Stephanie Walker

J-105 Fleet: Troublemaker	Kent Sisk & John Weil
Level Fleet: Misty	Pam Sesar
PHRF A Fleet: Junkyard Dog	Jim Severs
Martin 24 Fleet: Apple Pi	Rock Kent
Merit 25 Fleet: Lady Bee	Nicole Sirois
PHRF B: Pajema	Jim Shaw
Spring Series - Second Place	
J 24 Fleet: Bite Me	Phil Campagna
Cal 20 Fleet: Scooter	Pete Thomsen
Catalina 22 Fleet: Celeste	Weston Becker
Ranger 20 Fleet: Little Jewel	Zack Hegge
Cruising A Fleet: BARCODE	Kevin Robertson
PHRF A Fleet: Lolita	Jim Madden
Merit 25 Fleet: Nausicaa	Tod Bassham
PHRF B Fleet: Elixer	Joe Hoffman
Spring Series - Third Place	
Cal 20 Fleet: 3 Stooges	Fred Hazzard
Ranger 20 Fleet: Thunder Pig	Jacqueline Pitter
PHRF A Fleet: Stray Currents	Stan Heil
Spring Series - Fourth Place	
Cal 20 Fleet: Gwaihir	Keith Marcoe
Summer Series - First Place	
J 24 Fleet: Bite Me	Phil Campagna
Cal 20 Fleet: Check Ride	Brian Breithbarth
Catalina 22 Fleet: Celeste	Weston Becker
Ranger 20 Fleet: Papagayo	Mike Barth
Venture 21 Fleet: Stella	Doug Dillion
Cruising A Fleet: Barcode	Kevin Robertson
Cruising B Fleet: La Dolce Vita	Scott Stevenson
Cruising C Fleet: Blew Streak	Gary Kapezynski
Melges 24: MYST	Rod Buck

PHRF A Fleet: Stray Currents	Stan Heil
PHRF B: Moorality	Josh Raymond
Merit 25 Fleet: OB1	Michael Morrissey
Martin 24 Fleet: Kermit	Michael Stainsby
Level Fleet: Misty	Pam Sesar
PHRF C Fleet: Second Half	Warren Dalby
PHRF D: Molika	Gary Bruner
Summer Series - Second Place	
J 24 Fleet: Strange Brew	Blaine Goold
Cal 20 Fleet: Hot Dog	Ollie Kunz
Catalina 22 Fleet: Paula Jean	Michael Lang
Ranger 20 Fleet: R2	Corey Tolliver
Cruising C Fleet: River Weasel	John Osborne
Merit 25 Fleet: Nausicaa	Tod Bassham
Martin 24 Fleet: Nelly	David Paul
PHRF C: Pajema	Jim Shaw
Summer Series - Third Place	
Cal 20 Fleet: Scooter	Pete Thomsen
Catalina 22 Fleet: Max Epr	Jody Schultz
Ranger 20 Fleet: Little Jewel	Zack Hegge
Merit 25 Fleet: Lady Bee	Nicole Sirois
Summer Series - Fourth Place	
Cal 20 Fleet: Coho	Mike Crocker
Twilight Series - First Place	
J 24 Fleet: Bite Me	Phil Campagna
Cal 20 Fleet: Check Ride	Brian Breithbarth
Catalina 22 Fleet: Celeste	Weston Becker
Ranger 20 Fleet: Papagayo	Mike Barth
Cruising A Fleet: Bluefin	Frank Bocarde
Cruising B Fleet: Barcode	Kevin Robertson
Venture 21 Fleet: Gilded Lady	Jan Burkhart

J105 Free Bowl of Soup	Doug Schenk
Melges 24 Fleet: Blur	Ashley Lund
PHRF B: Moorality	Josh Raymond
PHRF A Fleet: Yeah Baby	Mike Pitarresi
Martin 24 Fleet: Bad Habit	Karen Anderson
Level Fleet: Misty	Pam Sesar
Merit 25 Fleet: OB1	Michael Morrissey
PHRF C: Pajema	Jim Shaw
Twilight Series - Second Place	
J-24 Fleet: Deadbeat	Jeff McDonald
Cal 20 Fleet: For My Girls	Craig Daniels
Catalina 22 Fleet: Sooz Moose	Don Woodhouse
Ranger 20 Fleet: R2	Corey Tolliver
Cruising A Fleet: Amaretto	Jeffrey Crass
Cruising B Fleet: La Dolce Vita	Scott Stevenson
Melges 24 Fleet: Bandit	Paul Teveliet
PHRF B Fleet: Schatzi	Kevin Kahl
PHRF A Fleet: Geronimo	Jim Foster
Martin 24 Fleet: Nelly	David Paul
Merit 25 Fleet: Nausicaa	Tod Bassham
PHRF C Fleet: Second Half	Warren Dalby
Twilight Series - Third Place	
J-24 Fleet: White Trash	Tim Hansen
Cal 20 Fleet: 3 Stooges	Fred Hazzard
Ranger 20 Fleet: Little Jewel	Zack Hegge
Merit 25 Fleet: Lady Bee	Nicole Sirois
Twilight Series - Fourth Place	
Cal 20 Fleet: Scooter	Pete Thomsen
Dual Bridge Duel -	
Overall winner of the Cup	
PHRF A: Myst	Rod Buck

First Place	
PHRF B: Junkyard Dog	Jim Severs
Merit 25: OB1	Michael Morrissey
Second Place	
PHRF B: Apple Pi	Rock Kent



Cal 20 3 Stooges enjoying the PYC Fall Regatta. Photo courtesy of Maria Swearingen.



OCSA TROPICAL PARTY

November 4th, 2017
at Portland Yacht Club

Trophy Presentations by
OCSA, CYC, RCYC, PYC and SYSCO
Raffle Prizes - Great Food - Dress Tropical!
Cocktails at 6, Dinner at 7

\$30 per person - \$40 after October 23
Register online at www.sailpdx.org
Please reserve by October 23

October 2017 SYSCO Board Minutes

Gary Bruner

The October Board meeting of SYSCO was held on Monday, Oct 2, 2017 at Elmer's, Delta Park.

Present were: Commodore Bruce Newton, Treasurer Scott Stevenson, Rear Commodore Nat Powning, and Vice Commodore Michael Morrissey. Also in attendance were: Jan Burkhart, Mike and Mary Stainsby, Rock Kent, Bill Sanborn, Warren Dalby, Mike Daly, Jeff Eastes, Tod Bassham, Dennis Damore and Gary Bruner.

The meeting began at 7 PM sharp, and Bruce dispensed with usual reports since racing is over for the season, there were no changes to finances, and membership has not begun for next season.

Bruce reiterated that there is a work group formed to discuss the futures of CYC, SYSCO and OCSA. The board was reminded that OCSA is not a 'club' per se but functions as a coordinating and administrative umbrella organization. SYSCO representatives will attend in order to listen to proposals initiated by CYC and OCSA.

Next Board Meeting

Bruce then mentioned topics for the General Membership Meeting of SYSCO, scheduled for the first Monday in November. That meeting will include the election of officers for 2018. At present, Michael Morrissey is standing for Commodore, Bruce will assume the Rear Commodore role, Jeff Eastes has

stepped up for Vice Commodore, and Scott Stevenson agreed to again perform the Treasurer's duties. The final flag officer position is Secretary which is open and in need of someone willing to take minutes at board meetings. Anyone willing to assume this relatively easy task is asked to contact Bruce or any board member, hopefully prior to the membership meeting.

Tod and Dennis agreed to pursue bylaw wording that would change the current one-year term limit on board positions. A vote on that is necessary to allow Scott to return as Treasurer.

A vote of the membership will also take place on the subject of a necessary increase in SYSCO dues.

Lastly, Mary mentioned that Jeff Causey from Oracle Racing would love to address a number of sailors in Portland. Bruce will talk to Jeff about the details and make a decision about whether or not he might address the membership at the Nov. meeting, and whether or not a change to a larger venue might be needed.

Awards

The SYSCO board must come up with the SYSCO Sailor of the Year award and a US Sailing Sportsmanship trophy, if one is to be presented this year. Flag Officers have that responsibility, which will be done via an email exchange.

As last year's winner of the Sportsmanship Award, Scott Stevenson will present a nomination after consultation with other sailors for ideas.

Calendar

There are numerous changes suggested for next year's racing calendar, in large measure prompted by concerns about available daylight, prospects for wind and current, amongst other things. A large number of items were discussed and agreed to by a majority of those present, but any changes to the calendar must be negotiated with ALL the clubs in our area through OCSA, the final arbiter of the schedule. SYSCO suggestions will begin with proposals to change beer cans from Friday nights to Saturday late afternoon, to, hopefully, increase participation and ease the frustration of the Friday commute. Other suggestions included extending the SOS series until later and changing the Daylight Savings Dash until later and calling it the COB Challenge. Another suggestion is moving the Dual Bridge Duel to August in hopes there might be better breeze. A majority present voted that they'd prefer to race in April than September, primarily because of diminished daylight after Labor Day. Another recommendation included continuing to take

the week of the Delta Cruise off from racing so that SYSCO would not be setting up a conflict between racing and cruising interests, both of which are part of SYSCO's mission statement. The current plan is to continue to have 16 weeks of series racing on Tuesday and Thursday nights with 6 weeks in the Summer Twilight Series. We will have to wait to see what develops during negotiations with OCSA representatives so that every club has its wishes respected, while minimizing conflicts in event dates. Bruce will email to interested parties the results of the OCSA calendar session on Oct. 19.

New Business

RCYC has inquired about using Pancho for the Frostbite Regatta. That would necessitate splashing Pancho earlier than normal, and may result in moorage challenges. SYSCO will negotiate with RCYC about this option, perhaps suggesting a swap for space in the RCYC clubhouse, the rental for which has gone up considerably in recent years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

*Respectfully submitted by Gary Bruner
for Secretary Don Woodhouse*